



Education and Children's Social Care O&S Committee: Work Programme 2022/23

Chair:	Cllr Kerry Jenkins
Deputy Chair:	Cllr Des Hughes
Committee Members:	Cllrs: Shabina Bano, Jilly Bermingham, Debbie Clancy, Morriam Jan, Shehla Moledina, and Simon Morrall Education Representatives: Justine Lomas, Roman Catholic Diocese, Osamugi Ogbe, Parent Governor, Rabia Shami, Parent Governor, and Sarah Smith, Church of England Diocese
Officer Support:	Senior Overview and Scrutiny Manager: Fiona Bottrill (303 1731) Scrutiny Officer: Amanda Simcox: (675 8444) Committee Manager: Sofia Mirza (675 0216)

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The remit of the Education and Children's Social Care O&S Committee is 'to fulfil the functions of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee as they relate to any policies, services and activities concerning schools and education, the Children's Trust, vulnerable children, corporate parenting, children and young people's health and wellbeing and other child social care and safeguarding functions of the council'.
- 1.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee dealing with education matters shall include in its membership the following voting representatives: a) Church of England diocese representative (one); b) Roman Catholic diocese representative (one); and c) Parent Governor representatives (two, who are on the Committee until 30th April 2026).
- 1.3 This report provides details of the scrutiny work programme for 2022/23.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Committee considers its work programme, attached at Appendix 1, and agrees any amendments required, taking into account paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3.
- 2.2 Agree whether the issue regarding student attendance at school during their period is included in the work programme. If agreed by the Committee for inclusion in the work programme, the focus of the report would be on the learning / good practice that has been identified and how this being shared with schools across the city, and members of the Health and Social Care O&SC would be invited to attend for this item (please refer to paragraphs 4.3 and 4.4 for further information).



2.3 Agree whether the Young People's Substance Use Service is added to the work programme (please refer to paragraph 4.5 for further information).

2.4 Notes the membership for the two Inquiries the Committee is involved with:

Inquiry	Committees Involved	Members
Children & Young People's Mental Health	Members from: Health & Social Care O&S Committee* and Education & Children's Social Care O&S Committee	Cllrs: Mick Brown (Chair), Kath Hartley, Gareth Moore, Julian Pritchard, and Paul Tilsley (Deputy Chair). Cllrs: Jilly Bermingham, and Simon Morrall.
Child Criminal Exploitation	Members from: Education & Children's Social Care O&S Committee	Cllrs: Des Hughes (Chair), Shabina Bano, Morriam Jan, Shehla Moledina, and Simon Morrall.

*Indicates the lead Committee where the task and finish group includes Members from more than one Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3 Background

3.1 *"Scrutiny is based on the principle that someone who makes a decision...should not be the only one to review or challenge it. Overview is founded on the belief that an open, inclusive, member-led approach to policy review...results in better policies in the long run."* (Jessica Crowe, former Executive Director, Centre for Governance and Scrutiny).

3.2 Developing an effective work programme is the bedrock of an effective scrutiny function. Done well, it can help lay the foundations for targeted, inclusive and timely work on issues of local importance, where scrutiny can add value. Done poorly, scrutiny can end up wasting time and resources on issues where the impact of any scrutiny work done is likely to be minimal.

3.3 As a result, the careful selection and prioritisation of work is essential if the scrutiny function is to be successful, add value and retain credibility.

4 Work Programme

4.1 Appendix 1 sets out the future work programme for this Committee. This provides information on the aims and objectives, together with lead officers and witnesses, for each item. The attached work programme also includes items to be programmed where dates are still to be confirmed, and any outstanding items including the tracking of previous recommendations.

4.2 As the work programmes for the Committees have developed a number of cross cutting issues have been identified. To avoid duplication Members will be invited to attend different Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings for relevant reports as set out below:



Lead Committee	Meeting and Agenda Item	Members to be invited and reason
Resources O&SC	17 November 2022: Monitoring recommendations from Council Asset Inquiry	Economy and Skills O&SC The Economy and Skills O&SC undertook the inquiry; however, this work now falls within the remit of the Resources O&SC
Education and Children's Social Care O&SC	30 November 2022: Report from Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Partnership (BSCP) and report from Birmingham Children's Trust (BCT)	Members of the CYP Mental Health Inquiry from the Health and Adult Care O&SC Information from the BSCP and BCT will inform the CYP mental health inquiry.
Health and Social Care O&SC	14 October 2022 Report from Forward Thinking Birmingham	Members of the Education and Children's Social Care O&SC It was agreed at Co-ordinating O&SC on the 8 July 2022 that the Health and Social Care O&SC undertakes scrutiny of children's mental health (under the overview and scrutiny role set out in the National Health Service Act 2006 as amended by the Health and Social Care Act 2012) and Members of the Education and Children's Social Care O&SC will be invited to attend as mental health is included within the Committee's terms of reference.
Commonwealth Games, Culture and Physical Activity O&SC	Meeting: TBC Report on employment and skills Legacy of the Commonwealth Games	Members of the Economy and Skills O&SC At the meeting on the 8 July Co-ordinating O&SC decided that this issue falls within the remit of the CWG, Culture and Physical Activity O&SC, and as it has been identified during the work planning for the Economy and Skills O&SC as an issue of interest. Members of this Committee would be invited to the relevant meeting.
Co-ordinating O&SC	14 October 2022 Report on Devolution Trailblazer Deal	Members of the Employment and Skills Inquiry Task and Finish Group The Deputy Leader will report to Co-ordinating O&SC on the devolution deal and this discussion will inform the work of the Employment and Skills Inquiry.



- 4.3 The Health and Social Care O&SC on the 20 September 2022 received the update on the Period Poverty Inquiry. It was agreed that the recommendations had been implemented – however the update report identified an issue regarding student attendance at school during their period. Two schools had held workshops with students which found that 40% of young women who attended had at one point stayed of school because of their period and after the discussion 23% thought they still would not come to school if they were on their period. This was an issue that members wanted to consider further, and it was agreed that the Chairs of the relevant Committees would meet to consider how to take this forward.
- 4.4 The Chairs of the Health and Social Care and the Education and Children’s Social Care O&SC met, and it was agreed that this would be proposed as an item for the Education and Children’s Social Care O&SC to consider at a future meeting, and that the members of the Health and Social Care O&SC would be invited to attend for this item. If agreed by the Committee for inclusion in the work programme the focus of the report would be on the learning / good practice that has been identified and how this being shared with schools across the city.
- 4.5 The Young People’s Substance Use Service was an item on the 24 November in 2021 committee meeting. That was the first time it had been included in the Committee’s work programme, as it had previously been included as part of the Health and Social Care O&SC work programme. However, it was felt it needed to have its own dedicated slot as part of Education & Children’s Social Care O&SC because it is an under 18’s service so sits better within this programme as opposed to adults and because of the vulnerabilities of those accessing the service, potential safeguarding and links to other young people’s services.

5 Other Meetings

- 5.1 There are no other meetings scheduled at this time.

Call in Meetings:

None scheduled

Petitions

None scheduled

Councillor Call for Action requests

None scheduled

Committee approved Wednesday at 10.00am as a suitable day and time each week for any additional meetings required to consider 'requests for call in' which may be lodged in respect of Executive decisions.



6 Forward Plan for Cabinet Decisions

- 6.1 Since the implementation of the Local Government Act and the introduction of the Forward Plan, scrutiny members have found the Plan to be a useful tool in identifying potential agenda items.
- 6.2 The following decisions, extracted from the CMIS Forward Plan of Decisions, are likely to be relevant to the Education and Children's Social Care O&S Committee's remit. The Committee may wish to consider whether any of these issues require further investigation or monitoring via scrutiny. The Forward Plan can be viewed in full via Forward Plans (cmis.uk.com).

ID Number	Title	Proposed Date of Decision
010410/2022	Birmingham Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2022/23	06 Sep 22

7 Legal Implications

- 7.1 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

8 Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report.

9 Public Sector Equality Duty

- 9.1 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:
- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
 - advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 9.2 The Committee should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them during work programme development, the scoping of work, evidence gathering and making recommendations. This should include considering: How policy issues impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share a relevant protected characteristic; Whether the impact on particular groups is fair and proportionate; Whether there is equality of access to services and fair representation of all groups within Birmingham; Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people are being realised.



- 9.3 The Committee should ensure that equalities comments, and any recommendations, are based on evidence. This should include demographic and service level data and evidence of residents/service-users views gathered through consultation.

10 Use of Appendices

- 10.1 Appendix 1 – Work Programme for 2022/2023

APPENDIX 1 - 2022-23 WORK PROGRAMME

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 20th July 2022 at 10am in the BMI, Margaret Street

Item/ Topic	Type of Scrutiny	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information (Including joint working / links with other O&S Committees)
SEND Improvement and the Accelerated Progress Plan	Update Report	Advise current position on SEND Improvement, and the Accelerated Progress Plan (APP).	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families Victor Roman, SEND Improvement Programme Manager	None Required	
Home to School Transport (HTST)	Update Report	Assurances on improvements to the HTST service including arrangements for Sep 2022.	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families	Mike Fagan, AD, Home to School Transport John Elsegood, Head of Communications Satinder Sahota, Interim City Solicitor & Monitoring Officer	None Required	
Youth Justice Plan	Consultation	To discuss the priorities prior to the plan going to Cabinet and City Council for adoption.	Seamus Gaynor, Head of Executive, Children's Trust	Dionne McAndrew, AD, Vulnerable Young People, Children's Trust Janine Saleh, Head of Service, Youth Offending Service	None Required	
Work Programme Development	Decision	Approve work programme for 2022-23	Fiona Bottrill, Senior Overview and Scrutiny Manager	None	None Required	

Final Deadline: Monday 11th July 2022, and Publication: Tuesday 12th July 2022

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 7th September 2022 at 10am in Committee Rooms 3 & 4, Council House

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information
SEND Improvement	Update Report	Improvement Journey	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families	None Required	
Cabinet Member Portfolio Overview	Update Report	Report providing a summary of Cabinet Member priorities for 2022-23, and identify opportunities for O&S to add value	Suman McCarthy, Cabinet Support Officer	Cllr Karen McCarthy, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families	None Required	Cabinet Member Portfolio Overview
Work Programme Development / Inquiry Proposal	Decision	Approve work programme for 2022-23	Fiona Bottrill, Senior Overview and Scrutiny Manager	None	None Required	

Final Deadline: Friday 26th August 2022

Publication: Tuesday 30th August 2022

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 19th October 2022 at 10am in Committee Rooms 3 & 4, Council House

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information
SEND Commissioner	Update Report	To provide information on the work of the SEND Improvement Board and how O&S can add value to the SEND improvement journey.	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families	John Coughlan, DfE Commissioner	None Required	
HTST / Children and Young People Travel Service Update	Update Report	Update on the service delivered in Sep 2022.	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families John Elsegood, Interim Lead Birmingham Children's Travel Service	None Required	

Final Deadline: Monday 10th October 2022

Publication: Tuesday 11th October 2022

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 30th November 2022 at 10am in Committee Rooms 3 & 4, Council House

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information
Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Partnership (BSCP)	Update Report	To receive the BSCP Two-Year Report and the Independent Chair's Accountability Report	Simon Cross Business Manager, BSCP	Penny Thompson, Independent Chair, BSCP Simon Cross Business Manager, BSCP	None	BSCP last attended a formal committee meeting on 16 th February 2022 Members of the Children and Young People Mental Health Inquiry from the Health and Adult Social Care OSC to be invited.
Children's Trust	Update Report	To receive the Business Plan and Priorities (including an update on the paper that is going to Cabinet on the 8 Nov regarding the contract)	Seamus Gaynor, Head of Executive, Children's Trust	Andrew Christie, Chair Andy Couldrick, Chief Executive, Children's Trust	None	Last attended a formal committee meeting on 1st September 2021 Members of the Children and Young People Mental Health Inquiry from the Health and Adult Social Care OSC to be invited.
Children and Young People Plan	Consultation	Part of the consultation	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families Kerry Madden, Programme Manager	None	TBC for either 30 th Nov 2022 or 4 th Jan 2023

Final Deadline: Monday 21st November 2022

Publication: Tuesday 22nd November 2022

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 4th January 2023 at 10am in Committee Rooms 3 & 4, Council House

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information
Children and Young People Plan TBC for either 30 th Nov 2022 or 4 th Jan 2023	Consultation	Part of the consultation	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families Kerry Madden, Programme Manager		

Final Deadline: Thursday 22nd December 2022

Publication: Friday 23rd December 2022

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 22nd February 2023 at 10am in Committee Rooms 3 & 4, Council House

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information
School Attainment	Update Report		Lisa Fraser, AD, Education and Early Years	Lisa Fraser, AD, Education and Early Years Tim Boyes, Chief Executive, BEP		

Final Deadline: Monday 12th February 2023

Publication: Tuesday 13th February 2023

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 5th April 2023 at 10am in Committee Rooms 3 & 4, Council House

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information
Children's Trust	Update Report	To provide an update on Progress with the Priorities	Seamus Gaynor, Head of Executive, Children's Trust Suman McCarthy, Cabinet Support Officer	Andrew Christie, Chair, Children's Trust Andy Couldrick, Chief Executive, Children's Trust Cllr Karen McCarthy, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families (tbc) Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families (tbc)	To be discussed	

Final Deadline: Monday 27th March 2023

Publication: Tuesday 28th March 2023

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 17th May 2023 at 10am in Committee Rooms 3 & 4, Council House

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information

Final Deadline: Monday 8th May 2023

Publication: Tuesday 9th May 2023

TO BE SCHEDULED:

1. Grand Challenges, City Observatory data indicators by committee remit
2. Scrutiny Inquiry: Child Criminal Exploitation
3. Joint Scrutiny Inquiry with Health and Social Care O&S Committee: Children and Young People's Mental Health
4. Visits
5. Members of the Education and CSC OSC have been invited to the Health and Adult Social Care meeting on 18 October 2022 for the report from FTB.